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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT The Halle Police force

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is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1947 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Minister of the Interior of the United States.

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SUPPLEMENT

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The Halle police force is not subordinate to the city government, but to the state Ministry of the Interior. It maintains close connections with the Department of the Interior of the city Komendatura, which is directed by Colonel Stakhanovsky.

All active Nazis and former party members have been discharged from the Halle police force. Eighty-six per cent of its members belong to the SED, eleven per cent to the LDP, and three per cent to the CDU. Applicants with criminal records are frequently employed, so that cases of corruption leading to dismissal have become fairly numerous. The present ratio between police and population is 2 to 1,000; the ratio usually considered desirable is 3 to 1,000.

A special political police is not permitted by the Russians, and misdemeanors of a political nature are investigated through the Section for Economic Offenses. There is no cooperation between the German Criminal Police and the Russian Secret Police (MVD). Although the Russian military police force is weak numerically, German police have no jurisdiction over Russian soldiers; they may only report offenses to the city Komendatura, which then conducts any necessary investigations. Crimes committed by Russian soldiers, however, have become less usual.

Prospective policemen receive a rapid six-weeks training course given at the police school in the Fliederweg Barracks in Halle. The police are armed with pistols, which are registered and must be turned in at the local station upon conclusion of duty. The use of firearms by the German police is closely supervised by the Russian occupation authorities.

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